

West Virginia Board of Registered Nurses

Guidelines for Continuing Education Requirements for Drug Diversion Training, Best-Practice Prescribing of Controlled Substances Training and Training on Prescribing and Administering an Opioid Antagonist

The West Virginia Board of Registered Nurses (Board) guidelines for continuing education (CE) requirements for drug diversion training , best-practice prescribing of controlled substances training and training on prescribing and administering an opioid antagonist are defined as educational offerings that include information on drug diversion training about the use of licit drugs for illicit purpose of abuse or misuse, best practice prescribing training of controlled substances that include information about safe and effective prescribing, administration and or dispensing of controlled substances in patient care and training on prescribing and administering an opioid antagonist in patient care that includes information about safe and effective prescribing and administration of an opioid antagonist to reverse opioid overdose.

Drug Diversion Training, Best Practice Prescribing of Controlled Substances Training, and Training on Prescribing and Administering an Opioid Antagonist Guidelines

“Best practice prescribing of controlled substances training” means training which includes the following:

- a) Patient evaluation, including addiction risk assessment;
- b) Treatment plans that incorporate functional goals;
- c) Informed consent and prescribing agreements;
- d) Periodic review and monitoring of patients including pill counts and drug testing;
- e) Referral and patient management;
- f) Documentation;
- g) Compliance with state and federal law;
- h) Patient education on safe use, storage and disposal of opioid medications, and administration of an opioid antagonist;
- i) Termination strategies for chronic therapy;
- j) Compliance with controlled substances laws and rules;
- k) Registration with and use of the West Virginia Controlled Substances Monitoring Program established in West Virginia Code Chapter 60A Article 9; and

l) Maintenance of a record of attendance of each individual who successfully completes the drug diversion training, best-practice prescribing of controlled substances training and training on prescribing and administering an opioid antagonist.

“Drug diversion training” means training which includes the following:

- a.) Prescription drug abuse and misuse;
- b.) Epidemiology of chronic pain, misuse of opioids and substance use disorder;
- c.) Indications for opioids in chronic pain treatment including general characteristics, toxicities and drug interactions;
- d.) Initiation and ongoing management of a chronic pain patient treated with opioid based therapies, including treatment objectives; monitoring and periodic review; referrals and consultations; informed consent; prescription of controlled substance agreements, urine screens and pill counts; patient education on safe use, storage and disposal of opioids; patient education on the use and administration of opioid antagonist; discontinuation of opioids for pain due to lack of benefits or increased risks; and documentation of medical records;
- e.) Identification of diversion and drug seeking tactics and behaviors;
- f.) Best practice methods for working with patients suspected of drug seeking behavior, diversion and substance use disorder;
- g.) Compliance with controlled substances laws and rules;
- h.) Registration with and use of the West Virginia Controlled Substances Monitoring Program established in West Virginia Code Chapter 60A Article 9;
- i.) Maintenance of a record of attendance of each individual who successfully completes a drug diversion training, best-practice prescribing of controlled substances training, and training on prescribing and administering an opioid antagonist.

Specific Board guidelines include the following:

1). The course(s) is at least a total of 3 contact hours and may be counted as part of the 12 contact hours of continuing education by registered nurses (RNs) for registered nurse license renewal and the course must be completed within one year of receiving an initial license from the Board.

2). The training may be in 1 or more courses, or a portion of a longer program provided the brochure or agenda describes the content and the number of hours related to the requirements.

3). The West Virginia Board of Registered nurses accepts nurse CE credit approved by any state board of nursing nurse CE provider, or state/national nursing association nurse CE provider related to drug diversion training, best-practice prescribing of controlled substances and training on prescribing and administering an opioid antagonist.

Reference

1. American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) 2020. The ASAM National Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder 2020 Focused Update. Retrieved from <https://www.asam.org/quality-care/clinical-guidelines/national-practice-guideline> .
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2022. CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain – United states, 2022. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/rr/rr7103a1.htm?s_cid=rr7103a1_w .
3. National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators (NADDI). 2023. Trainings. Retrieved from <https://www.naddi.org/trainings/> .